



The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming

By Henri J. M. Nouwen

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The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming By Henri J. M. Nouwen

A chance encounter with a reproduction of Rembrandt's *The Return of the Prodigal Son* catapulted Henri Nouwen on a long spiritual adventure. Here he shares the deeply personal and resonant meditation that led him to discover the place within where God has chosen to dwell.

In seizing the inspiration that came to him through Rembrandt's depiction of the powerful Gospel story, Henri Nouwen probes the several movements of the parable: the younger son's return, the father's restoration of sonship, the elder son's vengefulness, and the father's compassion. In his reflection on Rembrandt in light of his own life journey, the author evokes a powerful drama of the parable in a rich, captivating way that is sure to reverberate in the hearts of readers. The themes of homecoming, affirmation, and reconciliation will be newly discovered by all who have known loneliness, dejection, jealousy, or anger. The challenge to love as the father and be loved as the son will be seen as the ultimate revelation of the parable known to Christians throughout time, and here represented with a vigor and power fresh for our times.

For all who ask, "Where has my struggle led me?" or for those "on the road" who have had the courage to embark on the journey but seek the illumination of a known way and safe passage, this work will inspire and guide each time it is read.

"*The Return of the Prodigal Son* is a beautiful book, as beautiful in the simple clarity of its wisdom as in the terrible beauty of the transformation to which it calls us." --New Oxford Review

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming is a spiritual adventure story. A chance encounter with a poster depicting a detail of Rembrandt's *The Return of the Prodigal Son* set in motion a chain of events that enabled Nouwen to redefine and claim his vocation late in his life. In this book, which interweaves elements of art history, memoir, Midrash, and self-help, Nouwen brings the parable to life with empathic analyses of each character. Nouwen's absorption in the story (and the painting) is so complete that the father's challenge to love the son, and the son's challenge to receive that love, become Nouwen's own. And Nouwen's writing is so clear and his tone is so appealingly frank and humble that readers--no matter how far from home--will find hope for themselves in the prodigal peace Nouwen ultimately achieves. --
Michael Joseph Gross

From the Publisher

The beloved spiritual writer meditates on the parable of the prodigal son's return -- a powerful drama of fatherhood, filial duty, rivalry, and anger between brothers -- and its enduring lessons for Christianity.

Full-color photographs with gatefold.

From the Inside Flap

The beloved spiritual writer meditates on the parable of the prodigal son's return -- a powerful drama of fatherhood, filial duty, rivalry, and anger between brothers -- and its enduring lessons for Christianity. Full-color photographs with gatefold.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mark Dunn:

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William Stewart:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also be a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with education books but if you want feel happy read one having

theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. Typically the The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming is kind of guide which is giving the reader capricious experience.

Darrell Mayo:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book might be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the reserve untitled The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming can be excellent book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Thomas Rice:

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